

Claims

1. A burner (1) for a vapour deposition process, having a central nozzle (10)
for ejecting a glass precursor material, characterized in that said central
5 nozzle (10) has a concave shape.
2. A burner according to claim 1, wherein said central nozzle (10) has a
symmetry about an axial plane.
- 10 3. A burner according to claim 1, further comprising at least a crown of
nozzles (31, 32) surrounding said central nozzle (10) for ejecting a flame
reactant.
4. A burner according to claim 1, further comprising a circular nozzle (20)
15 between said central nozzle (10) and said crown of nozzles (31, 32) for
ejecting an innershield gas.
5. A burner according to claim 4, wherein said central nozzle (10) has first
angular sectors (10a) of minimum radial dimensions and second angular
20 sectors (10b) of maximum radial dimensions.
6. A burner according to claim 5, wherein said at least a crown of nozzles (31)
comprises a first set of nozzles (31a) in the same angular positions of said
second angular sectors (10b) and a second set of nozzles (31b) in the
25 same angular positions of said first angular sectors (10a).
7. A burner according to claim 6, further comprising a first set of orifices
exiting in said first set of nozzles (31a) and a second set of orifices exiting
in said second set of nozzles (31b), the orifices of the first set being inclined
30 of a first angle with respect to a central axis (5) of said burner and the

- 15 -

orifices of the second set being inclined of a second angle with respect to said central axis, said second angle being greater than said first angle.

8. A burner according to claim 1, having a central duct (101) exiting in said central nozzle (10) for the passage of said glass precursor material, and comprising a central member (70) positioned inside the central duct (101) for forcing the glass precursor material toward the external boundary of said central nozzle (10).
9. A burner according to claim 8, wherein the central member (70) has at least an enlarged portion that substantially fits with external walls (102) of said central duct (101).
10. A chemical vapor deposition process, comprising ejecting a stream of glass precursor material having a concave cross section.
11. A process according to claim 10, further comprising producing a flame around said stream of glass precursor material and ejecting an innershield gas between said stream of glass precursor material and said flame.
12. A process according to claim 10, wherein said stream of glass precursor material has a central axis, wherein said cross-section has first angular zones of maximum radial extension alternated to second angular zones of minimum radial extension, and wherein producing a flame comprises ejecting combustible gases along a first direction with respect to said axis at first angular positions corresponding to said first angular zones and along a second direction with respect to said axis at second angular positions corresponding to said second angular zones, said second angle being greater than said first angle.

13. A process according to claim 10, wherein said stream of glass precursor material is ejected with a velocity that is maximum in a region around a central axis of said stream.